

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 12, 1997

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, June 11, 1997, I missed rollcall vote No. 178, as I was presenting an acknowledgment to students from the University of Illinois at Chicago who were participating in the Department of Energy's Future Car Challenge. I was unable to make it back to the Capitol in time to cast my vote. Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on rollcall vote No. 178.

A TRIBUTE TO W.D. FARR

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 12, 1997

Mr. BOB SCHAFFER of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a man who helped shape the history of water development in eastern Colorado—William Daven "W.D." Farr. Mr. Farr is the epitome of a Colorado pioneer.

W.D. Farr was born in 1910 in Greeley, CO, and worked on his grandfather's homestead. The Farris' success at raising sheep led W.D. to enroll at the University of Wisconsin, which had the best sheep research department in the United States. In 1929, Mr. Farr returned to Greeley to join his father, Harry, in business when his studies were cut short by a severe illness. In 1948, Harry divided the business between his two sons. As the business grew over the years, W.D. acquired ranches and farms, plus land for feedlots.

Mr. Farr's vision in the area of local and regional water planning has been invaluable to the citizens of Greeley contributing to the economic prosperity of the community and the development of long range water project planning. Commitment and service to the Greeley community and the State of Colorado have been priorities in Farr's life. His many accomplishments include, but are not limited to the following:

Board of Director of the Greeley-Loveland Irrigation Company from 1947 to 1955;

Board of Director of the Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District from 1955 to 1995;

Chairman of the Greeley Water and Sewer Board for 36 years from its inception in 1959 until January of 1996;

First president of the Municipal Subdistrict of the Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District;

President of the National Cattlemen's Association from 1971 to 1972;

Member of the Water Pollution Control Advisory Board of the U.S. Department of the Interior appointed by President Richard Nixon in 1973;

Chairman of the Region 208 Area Wide Planning Commission of the Larimer-Weld Council of Governments in 1974;

Member of the Colorado Water Congress in 1975; and in 1985 named the Wayne Aspinall Water Leader of the Year by the Colorado Water Congress;

Inaugural inductee into the Colorado Business Hall of Fame when it was established in 1991; and

Inducted into the Colorado Agriculture Hall of Fame in 1995.

On Tuesday, June 17, 1997, the Greeley City Council will honor W.D. Farr by passing a city ordinance recognizing his illustrious service to his community, State, and Nation and naming him chairman emeritus of the Greeley Water and Sewer Board. I am pleased to join with the Greeley community in commending W.D. Farr on his numerous and outstanding contributions.

H.R. 1876. A BILL TO CLARIFY THAT COMPONENTS OF CERTAIN SCIENTIFIC INSTRUMENTS AND APPARATUS SHALL BE PROVIDED THE SAME STATUS AS THE SCIENTIFIC INSTRUMENTS AND APPARATUSES

HON. F. JAMES SENSENBRENNER, JR.

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 12, 1997

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, today we are introducing a bill to clarify the interpretation of language contained in the Florence Agreement, a multilateral international agreement regarding the importation of educational, scientific, and cultural materials. Signed by the United States it allows for the duty-free importation of scientific apparatus into the United States, if used by U.S. approved institutions for educational, scientific, and cultural purposes.

As nations tighten their research budgets, international scientific collaborations involving many nations are becoming more common. Therefore, it is crucial the United States promulgate the same tariff treatment for the importation of component parts of large scientific instruments, as for the scientific instruments themselves. The need for this legislation was demonstrated last year by the difficulties experienced in the Gemini International Telescope project. The U.S. Customs Service narrowly defined the words "scientific instruments or apparatus" not to include "components" of these instruments.

The Gemini project involved two large telescopes under construction in Hawaii and Chile. The project was managed by the Association of Universities in Astronomy [AURA], and involved the United States, United Kingdom, Canada, Chile, Argentina, and Brazil. The telescopes contained several components, including an 8-meter mirror manufactured in the United States. The mirrors were shipped to France for polishing before being returned to Hawaii and Chile for final assembly. The U.S. Customs Service initially contended that the mirror was a component, along with the other large components is not eligible for the same tariff free status as the instrument. Chile, however, was not charging duties on the components destined for there. The 104th Congress had to pass specific legislation to provide tariff relief for the Gemini project.

The prevent future problems, this bill addresses the difficulties encountered through the interpretation of the words "instruments or apparatus" by the U.S. Customs Service. It

states that separable components shall be included under the definition of instruments or apparatus, and that therefore they shall be eligible for the same tariff treatment under the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States. This bill will ensure that the United States fulfills the Florence Agreement's intent of furthering the exchange of ideas, knowledge, and information through the interchange of scientific instruments and apparatus.

A SAFE PLACE TO LIVE

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 12, 1997

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to report two good news stories related to the quality of life in my district in southern California. The first, relates to statistics compiled by the U.S. Department of Justice which concludes that Ventura County, CA is one of the safest areas to live in the United States. According to the FBI, the county recorded its lowest crime rate in 23 years with a 14.5 percent reduction in the number of crimes for each 1,000 people.

The county Sheriff's department and the Ventura police department report that the 1996 crime rate was the lowest since the early 1970's. The Sheriff's Chief Deputy Bob Brooks recently stated that, "not only has the rate decreased, but the number of crimes reported has also dropped—even as the population almost doubled in the past two decades."

Our second story involves my own hometown of Simi Valley. According to officials in the city of Simi Valley, its 1996 crime rate was low enough to again rank it as the safest city with a population of over 100,000 in California and possibly the safest city of that size in the United States. This success story involving Simi Valley, which has consistently had one of the lowest crime rates in the Nation, is due in large part to the hard work of the members of the city council and the commitment and dedication of Police Chief Randy Adams and the members of his department.

This welcome news was reported by the Nation's law enforcement agencies during the first 6 months of 1996 and released by the FBI in accordance with the Preliminary Uniform Crime Reporting Program.

These statistics demonstrate the commendable job the Ventura County and Simi Valley law enforcement officers are doing to protect our community and its citizens. Murder, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault have no place in a civilized society and will not be tolerated, especially in Ventura County and its municipalities. The efforts of our uniformed men and women and concerned members of our community have once again shown that we can be safe and secure in our homes and neighborhoods.

While the statistics are promising, we must continue to work to prevent crime, punish habitual offenders, and ensure that victims receive adequate restitution. There is still much to do to maintain this trend of decreasing crime rates. However, this report demonstrates that capable police officers, tough sentencing, positive outreach programs, and people who care have made a tremendous difference and will continue to be effective in the future.